

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA
NOVEMBER 20, 2013**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

Call to Order. Presiding Officer Mayor Terry Seitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm called the roll.

Mayor Terry Seitz	Present
Council members:	
Gregory Schnarr	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Present
Earl Schmitt	Present
Kevin Manley	Present
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Present
City Attorney Renee Kabrick	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Clerk-Treasurer Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. All seven council members were in attendance; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Seitz invited all those present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes.

The following minutes were distributed to and examined by the Council:

1. October 23, 2013 regular common council meeting

Thereafter, a **motion** was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Forest Park students. Three Forest Park High School students, Austin Egloff, Dakota Begle, and Joe Weyer, were present as part of their government class.

Utility Service Board. General Manager of Utilities Gerald 'Bud' Hauersperger gave a report on the regular monthly Utility Service Board meeting held on November 18, 2013. Copies of the minutes are supplied to each council member.

Permission to sell alcohol. Arts Director Kit Miracle along with Jasper Community Arts Commission President Michael Jones asked permission for the Arts Department to purchase and serve alcohol for events such as receptions and before and during performances. Miracle said they have had guest wineries for receptions but after some wineries were scheduled, they pulled out at the last minute. They will need to obtain a license from the state and the alcohol will be served by employees. Jones said they are currently looking at selling wine.

Council member David Prechtel asked if they looked at licensed, liquor caterers doing this service. Miracle said they have looked at that option but it is not worthwhile for the caterer. Jones added that the caterer gets the money rather than the City. Council member Gregory Schnarr asked if they need to purchase items such as an ice machine. Miracle said no because they have a kitchenette.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick said the council will need to adopt an ordinance to give the Jasper Community Arts Commission authority to sell alcohol and give them authority to undertake the necessary steps to implement this matter. This authority would be similar to that given to the Jasper City Park and Recreation Board that allowed the park department to sell beer and wine at the golf courses.

Advisory team meeting. Mayor Seitz reported that the advisory team for the former country club property is having a meeting on December 4, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in the Pfaffenweiler Room of City Hall.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-35 AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013.

This ordinance transfers appropriations within departments for the 2013 budget year.

A motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Motion carried 7-0. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 7-0. The city attorney so read the ordinance. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randall Buchta and seconded by Council member Raymond Howard to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2013-35. Motion carried 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-36 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2002-54 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE JASPER DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

This ordinance increases golf course green fees, golf cart rental fees, fee for swimming pool coupon booklets, Habig Center banquet room rent and damage deposit, the pre-school camp fee, and volleyball league fees—effective January 1,

2014. The amendment was recommended by the Jasper City Park and Recreation Board.

A motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Kevin Manley to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Motion carried 7-0. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randall Buchta and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 7-0. The city attorney so read the ordinance. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Kevin Manley to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2013-36. Motion carried 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-37 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2002-52 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR MEMBERSHIPS AT THE JASPER DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION GOLF COURSES

This ordinance increases the annual golf pass fees. The amendment was recommended by the Jasper City Park and Recreation Board.

A motion was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member Thomas Schmidt to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Motion carried 7-0. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randall Buchta and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 7-0. The city attorney so read the ordinance. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Kevin Manley to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2013-37. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion about selling part of former country club property to the school.

Council member Kevin Manley inquired what the City's options are regarding sale of property to the school. He asked what would happen if the City does not sell part of the former country club property to the school. He said council members are hearing from residents that the City should not sell any of that property to the school. Council member David Prechtel said some constituents in his area have said they do not want the school to purchase any of this land.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick explained the history of the transaction. She stated that both entities were interested in purchasing this land. The City initially met with the school and discussed whether there could be a cooperative effort between the School and the City to acquire the property. She explained that based on those meetings it was clear that both parties were interested in purchasing the property and in doing so as a cooperative effort. She indicated that the parties proceeded with discussions. In furtherance of this goal, the City and School each paid for one appraisal of the property. Ultimately, the City purchased the property from the country club. Kabrick went on to state that in every discussion held between the School and the City, it was agreed that the School was interested in property and that the City was willing to sell an amount of property not-to-exceed 15 acres in a location adjacent to school property.

Manley asked who had the authority to make that agreement. He said he did not feel like the council was involved in the decision to sell some of the land to the school. In response, Mayor Seitz reminded Manley that the Council had been involved in Executive Sessions in which this was discussed and that the Council was aware of this understanding. He also mentioned that a letter of understanding including this information had been drafted and forwarded to the School. However the letter of understanding had not been signed by the School.

Council member Randall Buchta said that he understood that if the school purchased a part of the property, that part would be reappraised and a price negotiated. Kabrick said there is no agreement to that effect, and there is no agreement regarding what part of the property would be sold. She also said the Redevelopment Commission would be the determining board. However, the Redevelopment Commission could transfer the property to the City before anything is sold to the school. In that event, the council would handle any land transaction.

Residents who voiced their concerns to the council members regarding this matter were encouraged to contact school board members and express their opinion to them as well.

Manley then asked if there are any more plans to sell the Lechner property or 30th Street Park. Seitz said that it was his understanding that the Council had requested that the City hold off on selling any property pending the outcome of the plans for the former country club property. This was based on the recommendation from the Park Board.

US 231 paving project. Council member Thomas Schmidt said he thought the State was going to pave US 231 from Huntingburg through Jasper instead of the few sections that were recently paved. Mayor Seitz said originally the State was going to pave US 231 from State Road 64 in Huntingburg to Ackerman Oil at State Road 162. After the mayor met with INDOT in the spring of 2012, three extensions were made in Jasper and added to the contract and those are the areas that INDOT paved in Jasper. According to INDOT, they are finished with the project. Schmidt asked if INDOT was going to fix the pot holes particularly near 13th Street. Seitz said the City regularly communicates with INDOT so he will follow up.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved _____ with X without corrections or clarification this 18th day of December, 2013.

Mayor Terry Seitz
Presiding Officer

Attest: _____
Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer